

C.4412 (3) STROOD

PRC Region 12

ANNUAL REPORT

on the Health of the

RURAL DISTRICT OF STROOD

during the year

1953

M. F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

STROOD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.

by

M.F. McDONNELL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
(Medical Officer of Health).

To the Chairman and Members of the
Strood Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1953 upon the public health circumstances of the Rural District of Strood.

POPULATION. There was an increase of 300 in the Registrar General's estimate from 21,320 in 1952 to 21,620 for the present year.

BIRTH RATE. The Birth rate per thousand of the population shows a decrease - 17.4 for the present year compared with 17.9 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales in 1953 was 15.5.

The still-birth rate for 1952 was low. The figure 15.9 per thousand of the population compares favourably with the rate of 18.3 for 1952. The rate for England and Wales in 1953 was 22.4.

GENERAL DEATH RATE. The death rate for 1953 was 11.6 per thousand of the population. The 1952 rate was 10.3. The rate for England and Wales during 1953 was 11.4. Total deaths in the district during 1953 was 252, as compared with 220 in 1952.

NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION. The number of births in 1953 exceeded the deaths by 125; in 1952 this figure was 162.

INFANT MORTALITY. The death rate for infants under one year of age was 31.8 and the rate for 1952 was 36.64. The number of such infants dying in the district during 1953 was 12 and in 1952, 14.

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA. These services are administered by the Kent County Council, and following my usual practice I have included a summary of the local services available on pages nine to twenty.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE. A tabulated statement showing the incidence of notifiable diseases is included in the report. In practically all instances the cases were higher in 1953 than 1952 and for the seventh successive year no diphtheria occurred in the district.

Extracts from the Council's tuberculosis records are also included. Strood's death rate for this disease during the year was 0.13 per thousand of the population, compared with 0.20 for England and Wales. The number of deaths occurring during the year was 3. These figures are most impressive; Strood's rate is well below the national level.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. Detailed reference has been made to this on page 25.

HOUSING. A further 261 new houses were constructed in the rural district during the year; I feel that the ultimate solution of the present housing problem, lies, not only in the provision of new houses, but also in the preservation of suitable houses which exist but which, owing to the effects of rent control are unable to be preserved at a sufficient standard of repair and accommodation.

I have once again to record my appreciation of the help and encouragement afforded me by the Council during the year, and to extend to my fellow officers and staff my appreciation of their co-operation and loyalty.

Your obedient Servant,

M.F. McDONNELL,

Medical Officer of Health.

MEMBERS OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

1953

1954

Councillor	F.C. Lawrence (Chairman)	
"	H.W. Carrington (Vice-Chairman)	
"	Mrs. E.M. Mugeridge.	
"	Mrs. E.M. Robson.	
"	Mrs. P.M. Ingleton.	Whole Council.
"	Revd. J.W.E. Brown.	
"	E.W. Cook.	
"	C. Higgs, J.P.	
"	C.W.R. Hodges.	
"	F.M. Hollands.	
"	J. Jackson.	
"	Capt. W.H. King, J.P.	
"	I.T. Lingham.	
"	Revd. V.S. Nicholls.	
"	H.J. Topley.	
"	J.L. Wright, J.P.	
"	H. Gregory.	

Members of No.5. Area Committee, National Health Services

Councillor Revd. J.W.E. Brown. Councillor T.C. Bowles.

Clerk:

Mr. A.E. Stroud.

Solicitors:

Messrs. Arnold, Tuff & Grimwade.

Officers in Public Health Department:

Medical Officer of Health:	M.F. McDonnell, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary Inspector:	G. Wilson, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector:	D.W. Horncastle, Cert. R.S.I. M.S.I.A.
Rodent Officer:	L.J. Dixon.
Clerk:	K. Merry.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30144899>

INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
Ambulance Service...	9
Analysis of Age Groups of Deaths ...	3
Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics...	10
Births and Deaths...	1
Camps...	23
Care of Premature Infants...	10
Causes of Death. ...	2
Cesspools...	24
Child Welfare Centres...	12, 13
Clinics. ...	10, 11, 12
Diphtheria Immunisation. ...	7, 18, 19
District Officers...	13
Domestic Help...	17
Domiciliary Midwifery Service...	14, 15
Drainage facilities. ...	24
Food inspection and supervision. ...	26
Food sampling...	28, 29
Health visitors. ...	17, 18
Home Nursing Service ...	15, 16
Hospital Services...	18
Housing position ...	23
Ice-cream...	26
Infectious Diseases. ...	4
Milk Distribution...	26, 27
Mortuary ...	8
Notification of births..	9
Nursing requisites..	19
Refuse, collections and disposal ...	21
Sanitary accommodation..	25
SANITARY INSPECTORS ANNUAL REPORT...	30, 31, 32, 33
Scarlet Fever...	5
Sewage Disposal. ...	23
Smallpox vaccination ...	7, 20
Tuberculosis ...	6
Venereal Diseases...	8
Vital Statistics ...	1
Water Supplies..	21, 24

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA

VITAL STATISTICS

1953

Area of District...	48,541 acres
Estimated Resident Population..	21,620
Number of inhabited houses.	6,358
Rateable Value 1953	£161,830
1952	£144,408
1951	£131,733
Sum represented by Penny Rate 1953.	£665
1952.	£596
1951.	£537
Births.	377
Birth rate.	17.4
Deaths.	252
Death rate.	11.6
Infantile Mortality Rate...	31.8 per 1,000 births.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory.	2.	1.
Tuberculosis, other.	-	1.
Acute poliomyelitis.	1.	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases.	-	1.
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	3.	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus.	3.	1.
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	3.
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	1.
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms.	14.	7.
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	1.	2.
Diabetes.	-	1.
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	14.	17.
Coronary disease, angina.	30.	8.
Hypertension with heart disease.	2.	1.
Other heart disease.	17.	22.
Other circulatory disease.	6.	8.
Influenza.	2.	5.
Pneumonia.	4.	13.
Bronchitis.	9.	4.
Other diseases of respiratory system.	-	1.
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum.	2.	1.
Nephritis & nephrosis.	3.	4.
Hyperplasia of prostate.	3.	-
Congenital malformations.	2.	3.
Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	11.	9.
Motor vehicle accidents.	2.	-
All other accidents.	3.	2.
Suicide.	2.	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	136.	116.
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Analysis of Age Groups of Deaths occurring during 1953:

PARISH	AGE GROUPS						
	0-10 years	10-20 years	20-40 years	40-60 years	60-70 years	70-80 years	80-100 years
Allhallows	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Cliffe	-	-	3	-	4	8	9
Cobham	1	-	-	4	8	3	6
Cooling	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cuxton	1	-	-	3	3	3	6
Frindsbury	3	-	2	5	4	8	7
Halling	3	-	1	6	3	12	8
Higham	1	-	-	3	3	8	5
High Halstow	2	-	-	3	2	-	1
Hoo	3	1	1	2	11	6	4
Isle of Grain	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
Luddesdown	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Meopham	1	-	-	5	8	9	9
St. Mary Hoo	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
Shorne	1	-	1	-	4	6	6
Stoke	1	-	1	1	2	2	2
TOTALS	17	1	11	34	55	67	67
Percentage of total deaths	6.74%	.4%	4.36%	13.50%	21.82%	26.59%	26.59%

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases
and other Diseases.

Tabulated statement of cases notified in each Parish:

PARISH	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Tuber- culosis		Poliomyelitis	Meningitis	Paratyphoid Fever	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	TOTAL
							Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary							
Allhallows	-	1	-	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Cliffe	-	-	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Cobham	-	1	-	42	3	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
Cooling	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cuxton	-	-	-	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	32
Frindsbury	-	2	-	46	4	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	58
Halling	-	2	-	17	4	3	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	30
Higham	-	-	-	60	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	65
High Halstow	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Hoo	-	1	-	28	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	35
Grain	-	-	-	69	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
Luddesdown	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Meopham	-	-	-	72	7	18	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	100
St. Mary Hoo	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Shorne	-	-	-	33	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Stoke	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	16
TOTALS	-	7	-	435	25	30	28	3	3	1	-	2	2	2	538

SCARLET FEVER

Number of cases..... 7
 Number of deaths.....NIL
 Number of cases removed to Hospital.....NIL
 Percentage of cases removed.....NIL

YEAR	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Enteric Fever	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1943	40	NIL	6	2	NIL	NIL
1944	47	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1945	23	NIL	2	NIL	NIL	NIL
1946	28	NIL	1	NIL	NIL	NIL
1947	13	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1948	7	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1949	17	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1950	27	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1951	12	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1952	13	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
1953	7	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTALS	234	NIL	9	2	NIL	NIL

TUBERCULOSIS

Statement of particulars appearing on the Register of Notifications of Tuberculosis for the Year ended 31st December, 1953:-

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
(a) No. of Cases on Register at the commencement of Year	43	39	82	28	21	49	131
(b) No. of Cases notified under the regulations of 1912 for the first time.	18	12	30	1	1	2	32
(c) No. of Cases restored to Register.	-	2	2	-	-	-	2
(d) Other additions during the year.	2	4	6	-	-	-	6
(e) No. of cases removed from Register during the year.	12	6	18	3	3	6	24
(f) No. of Cases remaining on Register at the end of the year.	51	51	102	26	19	45	147

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA and VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following is a return of (a) the number of children resident in the Rural District who were immunised against diphtheria during the year 1953, (b) the number of children under the age of 15 years on the 31st December 1953 who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January 1939) and (c) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox during the year ended 31st December 1953:-

(a)

(a)

(b)

Year of Birth	Primary Inoculations	Reinforcing Inoculations	
1953	26	-	184
1952	192	-	142
1951	28	-	116
1950	4	-	130
1949	6	8	176
1948	4	101	241
1947	4	6	180
1946	2	8	281
1945	2	6	276
1944	5	17	346
1943	1	1	320
1942	-	1	276
1941	-	1	249
1940	-	-	216
1939	-	-	26
TOTALS	274	149	3159

(c)

Age at 31st December, 1953	Number vaccinated	Number re-vaccinated
Under 1	135	-
1 to 4	81	2
5 to 14	9	8
15 and over	7	27
TOTALS	232	37

MORTUARY AND BURIAL OF THE DEAD

The Mortuary is situated next to the Fire Station at St. Werburgh Crescent, Hoo.

During 1953 nine bodies were received into the Mortuary.

It was not found necessary to operate the provisions of section 50, National Assistance Act 1948 during the year, relatives of deceased persons carrying out burials in all cases.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Abstract from Annual Return 1953

<u>New Cases</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Syphilis	.....	1	3	4
Gonorrhoea	.....	8	3	11
Non-venereal	.....	9	5	14
				<hr/>
				29
				<hr/>

Total number of attendances.....358

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The County Council is responsible for the provision of a comprehensive ambulance service throughout the County. Other than in cases of accident and emergency, no ambulance will be provided, except upon the recommendation of a doctor, hospital or midwife, and for the provision of a sitting-case car a certificate from a doctor is necessary.

To facilitate the call-out of ambulances in cases of accident or emergency, arrangements have been made with the Post Office authorities for such calls to be passed automatically to the nearest manned fire station, the staff of which will assume the responsibility of passing the call to the nearest manned ambulance station. In three cases, however, one of which is the Medway Towns, emergency calls are sent by the Post Office direct to the ambulance station serving the area.

The service is provided by:-

- (a) vehicles provided and manned by the County Council.
- (b) vehicles operated and manned by the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade, British Red Cross Society acting as agents of the Council, and
- (c) sitting-case cars provided through the Hospital Car Service as agents of the Council.

Ambulance Stations -

King Edward Road, Rochester. Tele: Chatham 3540
and 45685.

Harden Memorial Hall, Hall
Road, Northfleet. Tele: Gravesend 5257/8.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

In the case of every child born it is the duty of the father of the child, if at the time of the birth he is actually residing on the premises where the birth takes place, and of any person in attendance upon the mother at the time of, or within six hours after the birth, to send notice of the birth within thirty-six hours, to the County Medical Officer of Health, County Hall, Maidstone.

Postcards with prepaid postage for this purpose are supplied to medical practitioners, midwives, hospitals and maternity homes, upon application to the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Maidstone.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

Special outfits for use when premature babies are to be nursed at home or for their conveyance to hospital, are available free upon application by a doctor or midwife at the following addresses:-

Farnborough Hospital,	Farnborough
District Hospital,	Pembury
Sheppey General Hosp.,	Minster, Sheppey.
Willesborough Hospital,	Nr. Ashford.
Royal Victoria Hospital,	Folkestone.
West Kent General Hosp.,	Maidstone.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

Advice and ante-natal care is given at these clinics. Post-natal examinations are carried out at ante-natal clinics.

Clinics for Strood Rural District -

Strood - Institute, Gun Lane.	Thursday mornings.
Vigo Village, Meopham - 121, Harley Street.	2nd and 4th Monday mornings.
Gravesend - Windmill Street.	Thursday afternoons.
Gravesend - White Hill, Kings Farm Estate.	Tuesday afternoons.
Gravesend - The Nest, Denton.	1st. and 3rd. Monday afternoons.

TUBERCULOSIS, MINOR AILMENT CLINICS, DENTAL CLINICS, SPECIAL CLINICS and VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS.

1. Tuberculosis -	Monday morning 9-11.a.m.
13, New Road, Rochester -	A.P. Refill Clinic,
Tele: Chatham 2182.	All Saints Hospital, Chatham.
	Men:- 9.0.a.m.
	Women:- 10.0.a.m.

Clinics - continued

Tuberculosis -

Tuesday morning 9.30a.m.
to 10.30a.m. (Patients
from Gillingham, Rainham
& surrounding areas.)

Tuesday afternoon 2.p.m.
to 3.p.m. Residents from
Rochester, Chatham and
Strood area.

Friday morning 9.30a.m.
to 10.30a.m. Residents
from Rochester, Chatham
and Strood area.

Friday afternoon 2.p.m.
to 3.p.m. Patients from
Rainham, Gillingham and
surrounding areas,)

Gravesend & North Kent Hospital.

Wednesday. General clinic
Thursday morning. Refill
clinic.
Saturday 9.a.m. to 11.a.m.
(children only.)

2. Minor Ailment -

Strood House, Corporation
Street, Rochester.

Gun Lane, Strood.

Welfare Centre, Windmill
Street, Gravesend.

Welfare Centre, The Nest,
Gravesend.

Estate Office, Whitehill
Road, Gravesend.

Every Friday morning 9.a.m.
to 10.a.m.

Every Wednesday afternoon.

Wednesday, Thursday and
Friday mornings 9.a.m. to
10.a.m.

Every Tuesday and Friday
mornings 9.a.m. to 10.a.m.

Every Tuesday morning 9.a.m.
to 10.a.m.

3. Permanent Dental -

Strood House, Corporation
Street, Rochester.

Every Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Saturday
mornings.

Manor Road, Gravesend.

Monday & Tuesday.

West Kent House, Station
Road, Northfleet.

Alternate Wednesdays,
every Thursday & Friday.

4. Specialist (children attend by appointment) -

Child Guidance -
118, Maidstone Road,
Chatham.

Ophthalmic - 118, Maidstone
Road, Chatham.

Every Monday all day, 1st
3rd and 5th Friday morning.

Gravesend Hospital.

Monday & Thursday after-
noons, Tuesday mornings.

Speech defects -
118, Maidstone Road,
Chatham.

Every Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday all day.

The Nest, Gravesend.

Every Thursday.

5. Venereal Diseases -

Rochester - 36, New Road,

Men. Mondays 1.30-4.30p.m.
Thursdays 11.a.m. to 1p.m.

Women. Mondays 1.30-4.30p.m.
Thursdays 11.a.m. to 1p.m.

Gravesend - 22, Cobham
Street.

Men. Tuesdays 11.a.m. to 1p.m.
Saturdays 9-10.a.m.

Women. Tuesdays 1-2.15.p.m.
Saturdays 9-10.a.m.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

These centres are open at the days and times set out
for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of infants
and children under the age of five years. Infant foods,

Child Welfare Centres - continued

national dried milk and Ministry of Food vitamin products are issued at these centres. A Medical Officer and a Health Visitor are in attendance at each centre.

Centres for Strood Rural District -

Cliffe	- The Black Bull,	Tuesday afternoons.
Cobham	- Meadow Room.	2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoons.
Cuxton	- Social Club & Workingmens Institute.	2nd & 4th Thursday afternoons.
Frindsbury Extra-	Workingmens Institute, Wainscott.	1st., 3rd. & 5th Thursday afternoons.
Isle of Grain	- Chapel School.	1st. and 3rd. Friday afternoons.
Halling	- The Insitute, High Street.	1st., 3rd. & 5th. Friday afternoons.
Higham	- Village Memorial Hall.	2nd. & 4th. Friday afternoons.
Hoo	- Five Bells Inn.	Wednesday afternoon.
Meopham	- Village Hall.	1st. & 3rd. Thursday afternoons.
Meopham	- 121, Harley Street, Vigo Village.	Monday afternoons.
Shorne	- Village Hall.	2nd. & 4th. Thursday afternoons.
Stoke	- British Legion Hall.	2nd. & 4th. Friday afternoons.
Strood	- Gun Lane.	Tuesday afternoon 2-4p.m. Friday morning 10-12 a.m.

DISTRICT OFFICERS

These officers are responsible for :-

1. Duties as Authorised Officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and under the Mental Deficiency Acts.
2. Acting as representatives of the County Health Department in dealing with enquiries made by the public and arranging for County Health Services to be made available in cases of difficulty.

District Officers - continued

3. Carrying out the duties of the County Council under the National Assistance Act in :-
(a) arranging admission of old, handicapped and homeless persons to residential establishments other than in cases of sickness.

(b) the care of moveable property of patients who are admitted to hospital or a residential establishment provided by the Council where it appears that there is danger of loss or damage to the property.

District Officers and Assistants -

Rochester. Office:- 13, Gun Lane, Strood. Telephone:-
Strood 7451.

Officer:- Mr. C.H. Hurdman, Telephone:-
4, City Way, Rochester. Chatham 2681.

Assistant Mr. R.J.B. King, Telephone:-
Officer:- 154, Cedar Road, Strood 78397.
Strood.

Gravesend. Office:- Arthur Street, Gravesend. Telephone:-
Gravesend 166.

Officer:- Mr. G.T. Jeffery, Telephone:-
357, Watling Street, Dartford 3143.
Dartford.

Assistant
Officer:- Mr. E.S. Johnson, Telephone:-
50, Walpole Road, Ravensbourne 4245.
Bromley.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICE

This service, which is free, is to secure that an adequate number of midwives is employed by the Council for attending women in their own home, either as midwives or maternity nurses.

The names, addresses and telephone number of midwives are given below:-

Cooling) Mrs. F.L. Lee, Telephone:-
Cliffe) 5, Irvine Terrace, Cliffe. Cliffe 223.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service - continued

Cuxton Halling	) )	Mrs. I.G. Sheath, St. Clements, Church Hill, Cuxton.	Telephone:- Strood 7503.
Frindsbury Extra(part) Higham	) ) )	Miss S. McGarvey, 6, Alexander Cottages, Higham.	Telephone:- Shorne 309.
Frindsbury Extra(part)	)	Miss E.K. Wright, 22, Powlet Road, Frindsbury.	Telephone:- Strood 7557.
Allhallows Isle of Grain High Halstow St. Mary Hoo Stoke.	) ) ) ) )	Miss F.A. Leaman, 3, Jubilee Cottages, High Halstow.	Telephone:- Hoo 252.
Hoo.	)	Miss M.A. Webb, 11, St. Werburgh Cres., Hoo.	Telephone:- Hoo 266.
Cobham Luddesdown Shorne Meopham-Vigo Village.	) ) ) ) )	Miss E.M. Hudson, 1, Lawrence Drive, Cobham.	Telephone:- Cobham 328.
Meopham (main part)	)	Miss J.M. Collie, Clements Reach, Meopham.	Telephone:- Meopham 3127.
Meopham- Istead.	)	Miss A.J. Woods, 37, Hardy Avenue, Northfleet.	Telephone:- Gravesend 5165.
Group relief for:-		Miss F.A. Leaman,) Mrs. F.L. Lee,) Miss S. McGarvey.) Miss M.A. Webb,)	Miss E.M. Gogerty, 9, Marshland View, Lower Stoke. Telephone Allhallows. 298.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

This service, which is also free, is to secure the attendance of nurses on persons who require nursing in their own homes. Apart from cases of emergency and accident,

Home Nursing Service - continued

patients can only be attended when the nurse has been requested to do so by a doctor. At the present time, it is not possible to provide a night service.

The names and addresses of Home Nurses are given below. Where the nurse is on the telephone the number is also given.

Cooling Cliffe	)	Mrs. F.L. Lee, 5, Irvine Terrace, Cliffe.	Telephone:- Cliffe 223.
Cuxton	)	Mrs. G.M. Boorman, 18, Wouldham Road, Borstal, Rochester.	Telephone:- Chatham 45886.
Higham Frindsbury Extra (part)	)	Miss S. McGarvey, 6, Alexander Cottages, Higham.	Telephone:- Shorne 309.
Frindsbury Extra (Upnor)	)	Miss K.R. Shorthouse, 11, Goddington Road, Strood.	Telephone:- Strood 7596.
Halling	)	Miss E.C. Davidson, c/o Mrs. Hogben, 141, Birling Road, Snodland.	Telephone:- Snodland 84388.
Allhallows Isle of Grain High Halstow St. Mary Hoo Stoke	)	Miss F.A. Leaman, 3, Jubilee Cottages, High Halstow.	Telephone:- Hoo 252.
Hoo	)	Miss M.A. Webb, 11, St. Werburgh Cres., Hoo.	Telephone:- Hoo 266.
Cobham Luddesdown Shorne Meopham (Vigo Village)	)	Miss E.M. Hudson, 1, Lawrence Drive, Cobham.	Telephone:- Cobham 328.
Meopham (except Vigo Village)	)	Miss J.M. Collie, Clements Reach, Meopham.	Telephone:- Meopham 3127.

Home Nursing Service -continued

Group Reliefs for :- Miss E.C. Davidson. Miss L.S. Bradley,
2, Cross Way,
Rochester.
Chatham 4056.

Miss F.A. Leaman	)	Mrs. E.M. Gogerty,
Mrs. F.L. Lee	)	9, Marshland View,
Miss S. McGarvey	)	Lower Stoke.
Miss M.A. Webb	)	Allhallows 298.

DOMESTIC HELP

This service is to provide domestic help for householders where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged or a child not over compulsory school age. Householders are required to contribute towards the costs in accordance with their means.

Applications for domestic help for householders in Strood Rural District should be made to the Domestic Help Organiser, 13, Gun Lane, Strood.

HEALTH VISITORS

These officers are appointed for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant and nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

The Health Visitors also undertake duties in connection with the School Health Service.

Health Visitors for the Strood Rural District:-

Allhallows)		
Cliffe)		
Cooling	)	Miss P.C.D. Biggs,	Telephone:-
High Halstow	)	Swiss Cottage,	Shorne 353.
Hoo	)	Shorne.	
Isle of Grain)		
St. Mary Hoo)		
Stoke)		

Health Visitors - continued

Cuxton	)	Miss H.M. Gaunt,
Halling	)	K.C.C. Clinic,
Luddesdown	)	121, Harley Street,
Meopham	)	Vigo Village, Meopham.
Frindsbury	)	Miss Williams,
Extra	)	c/o. K.C.C. Clinic, Gun Lane, Strood.
Cobham	)	Mrs. G.M. Blackmore,
Higham	)	Station Road Clinic,
Shorne	)	6, Station Road, Northfleet.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

All cases of infectious disease are admitted to:-
River Hospital, Joyce Green, Dartford. Telephone No: Dartford 3231.
St. William's Hospital, St. Williams Way, Rochester. Chatham 3243.
Keycol Hospital, Sittingbourne. Newington 222.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Facilities for immunisation, free of cost, are available at the following child welfare centres and at special immunisation clinics, and all Medical Practitioners have been invited to participate in the scheme, which provides for free immunisation against Diphtheria. The child should normally have the first injection between the age of eight months and one year, and reinforcing doses shortly before starting school, and again at nine years of age.

Cliffe, The Black Bull	-	1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesdays in the month 2-4 p.m.
Cobham, Meadow Room	-	2nd & 4th Tuesday in the month 2-4 p.m.
Cuxton, Social Centre Bush Rd.-	-	2nd Thursday in the month 2-4 p.m.
Grain, Chapel Rooms	-	1st & 3rd Friday in the month 2-4 p.m.
Halling, The Institute	-	1st, 3rd & 5th Friday in the month 2-4 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation - continued

Higham, Village Memorial Hall-	2nd & 4th Friday in the month 2-4 p.m.
Hoo, Five Bells Inn -	1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday in the month 2-4 p.m.
Meopham, Village Hall, Main Road. -	1st & 3rd Thursday in the month 2.30-4.30 p.m.
Shorne, Village Hall -	2nd & 4th Thursday in the month 2-4 p.m.
Stoke, British Legion Hut -	2nd & 4th Fridays 2-4 p.m.
Strood, Gun Lane -	2nd Thursday in the month 2-3.30 p.m.

Supplies of A.P.T. and T.A.F. can be obtained from the Pathological Laboratory, County Hall, Maidstone (Maidstone 4321) or from the Council Offices, (Health Department), Frindsbury Hill, Strood (Strood 7622).

In addition to the welfare centres set out, the following regular immunisation clinics are held:-

Council Offices, Frindsbury Hill, Every Friday morning
Strood. 10-11 a.m.

M.&.C.W. Centre, 121, Harley Street, 4th Tuesday afternoon
Vigo Village, Meopham. in month 2.30-3.30 p.m.

Ministry of National Insurance

Local Offices:- Chatham Local Office,
240, High Street,
Rochester.

Gravesend Local Office,
"Ravenscourt",
Pelham Road,
Gravesend.

NURSING REQUISITES

Arrangements have been made with the British Red Cross Society and St. Johns Ambulance Brigade for the continuance of the Medical Loan Depots on behalf of the County Council. The full range of nursing requisites will be available and details of the addresses and times the depots are open for distribution are available in the district offices. These arrangements will be in addition to the loan cupboards kept

Nursing Requisites - continued

by the District Nurses. The depots deal with all applications for the loan of nursing requisites.

Medical Loan Depots -

Telephone No:

- Rochester - B.R.C.S. 67, High Street-daily
10am.-5.0pm. by appointment with Chatham 3540
Mrs. Cronk, 4, Roebuck Road,
Rochester.
- St. Johns, 171, Maidstone Road -
daily (day and night) Mr. E.H. Love. Chatham 3572
- Gravesend - B.R.C.S.K.C.C. Clinic, Windmill
Street, Gravesend. Monday and Gravesend 5373
Wednesday evenings, Mrs. Fryer,
97, Whitehill Lane, Gravesend.
- St. Johns, Park House, Park Place,
daily 8.am.-8.pm. Miss L. Smith. Gravesend 854
- Northfleet- St. Johns, 69, Dover Road. Monday-
Friday 7.30a.m.-9 p.m. Mr. C.J. Sims. Gravesend 4603

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

Facilities for vaccination, free of direct cost, against Smallpox are available for infants at the following Child Welfare Clinics and all medical practitioners have been invited to participate in the scheme.

Vaccine lymph can be obtained from the Pathological Laboratory, County Hall, Maidstone, by all medical practitioners carrying out vaccination under the Council's arrangements.

- | | | |
|---------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cobham | - Meadow Room | - 2nd & 4th Tuesday 2-4pm. |
| Higham | - Memorial Village Hall | - 2nd & 4th Friday 2-4pm. |
| Meopham | - Village Hall, Main Road. | - 1st & 3rd Thursday 2.30-4.30p.m. |
| Shorne | - Village Hall | - 2nd & 4th Thursday 2-4pm. |

Special Clinics-Council Offices, Frindsbury Hill, Strood.	M.&.C.W. Centre, 121, Harley Street, Vigo Village, Meopham.
Every Friday morning 10-11am. by appointment.	4th Tuesday in month 2.30-3.30.p.m.

WATER SUPPLIES

The Higham & Hundred of Hoo Water Company is responsible for the supply of water to this area except for the Parish of Halling and part of Cobham Parish which are supplied by the Mid-Kent Water Company.

Examination of samples show the water to be of a high degree of purity but pressure in the mains serving some parts of the District has been low. The Higham and Hundred of Hoo Water Company intend using other existing wells in the area to supply the increasing demand for water in the District.

Bacteriological and Chemical examination of water supplies.

Fifty-four bacteriological samples were taken during the year, two of which showed evidence of contamination. Investigation showed the cause of one bad sample to be a defective water pipe and the other to be a private well which was polluted during the flooding of the area early in the year. The owner of this well agreed to close the well and supply water from the mains supply.

Five chemical samples showed the water to be organically pure though hard.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection and Disposal of Domestic Refuse

Domestic refuse is collected weekly throughout the district and disposed of by means of controlled tipping in a disused chalk pit in the parish of Cuxton. The refuse tip is treated regularly to prevent rat infestation and during the summer period insecticides are applied to prevent the breeding of flies and crickets.

Cesspool and Pail Closet Emptying

Cesspools are emptied upon request free of charge up to a maximum of four times per year except in those areas where the public sewer is provided.

Pail closets are emptied weekly in the Parishes of Hoo, Isle of Grain and Allhallows and twice per week in the Parish of Stoke.

PARISH	No. of Houses.	No. of Houses with indoor W/supply.	No. of Houses with S/pipes.	No. of Houses with Public Water sup.	No. of Houses on Private Supply, Wells, Springs, etc.
Allhallows	116	113	3	116	-
Cliffe	735	613	122	735	-
Cobham	351	336	15	351	-
Cooling	57	56	1	57	-
Cuxton	290	278	12	289	1
Frindsbury	896	885	11	896	-
Halling	694	694	-	693	1
Higham	536	517	19	535	1
High Halstow	142	142	-	142	-
Hoo	660	648	12	658	2
Isle of Grain	259	251	8	259	-
Luddesdown	62	61	1	48	14
Meopham	892	882	10	883	9
St. Mary Hoo	73	72	1	71	2
Shorne	412	378	34	410	2
Stoke	183	135	48	177	6
TOTALS	6358	6061	297	6320	38
Percentage of Totals.	-	95.32%	4.68%	99.4%	.6%

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Sewers are provided for the drainage of premises in the Parishes of Allhallows, Frindsbury Extra, Halling Hoo and Isle of Grain. The sewer at Frindsbury Extra has now been extended to the Parishes of Higham and Shorne.

The effluent of the Allhallows and the Isle of Grain sewers empties into the River Thames and the others into the River Medway, after treatment.

HOUSING

The following is the position regarding applicants for Council Houses in the district, as at May, 1954.

Allhallows	-	34
Cliffe	-	56
Cobham	-	29
Cooling	-	9
Cuxton	-	20
Frindsbury	-	167
Halling	-	67
Higham	-	109
High Halstow	-	18
Hoo	-	100
Isle of Grain	-	20
Luddesdown	-	11
Meopham	-	73
St. Mary Hoo	-	7
Shorne	-	22
Stoke	-	34

The number of houses built by the District Council during the year was 199 and by private enterprise 62.

EX-ARMY CAMPS

The total number of huts now in use in the rural district is 126, Gravesend administering 24 of this number.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES SURVEY OF RURAL AREA

Drainage Facilities

PARISH	No. of Houses Surveyed.	No. of Houses connected to Public Sewer.	No. of Houses draining to cesspools, Septic Tanks, etc.	No. of Houses with no drainage.
Allhallows	116	38	78	-
Cliffe	735	8	701	26
Cobham	351	16	335	-
Cooling	57	-	56	1
Cuxton	290	-	286	4
Frindsbury	896	576	319	1
Halling	694	591	103	-
Higham	536	69	448	19
High Halstow	142	-	141	1
Hoo	660	439	221	-
Isle of Grain	259	194	64	1
Luddesdown	62	-	62	-
Meopham	892	44	831	17
St. Mary Hoo	73	-	71	2
Shorne	412	67	342	3
Stoke	183	-	182	1
TOTALS	6358	2042	4240	76

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES SURVEY OF RURAL AREA

Sanitary Accommodation

PARISH	No. of Houses Surveyed.	Water Closets	Pail Closets	Privies
Allhallows	116	73	40	3
Cliffe	735	631	90	14
Cobham	351	298	37	16
Cooling	57	37	12	8
Cuxton	290	266	24	-
Frindsbury	896	853	42	1
Halling	694	676	18	-
Higham	536	427	84	25
High Halstow	142	105	37	-
Hoo	660	548	112	-
Isle of Grain	259	228	29	2
Luddesdown	62	39	21	2
Meopham	892	843	49	-
St. Mary Hoo	73	37	36	-
Shorne	412	348	49	15
Stoke	183	88	93	2
TOTALS	6358	5497	773	88

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Premises which are used for sale of food or preparation for sale of articles of food, have been regularly visited throughout the year. The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption.

Minced Meat Loaf.	2.lbs. 4.ozs.	Mouldy.
Red Cherries in Syrup.	4.lbs.	Blown.
Cooked Boneless Shoulder Ham.	11.lbs. 6.ozs.	Putrid.
Peaches in Syrup.	1.lb. 8.ozs.	Putrid.
Pork Luncheon Meat.	5.lbs. 9.ozs.	Putrid.
Pork (home killed).	17.lbs. 7.ozs.	Bruising.
Beef.	96.lbs.	Putrid.
Australian Ox Hind.	85.lbs.	Putrid.

ICE-CREAM

Sixty-nine premises are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream. There is no ice-cream manufactured on the district.

MILK DISTRIBUTION

There are 23 retailers and 5 producer/retailers registered as distributors of milk in the area and 9 dealers retailing milk in the area whose premises are not situated on the district.

During the year 21 milk samples were taken, the results of the examination of the milk are shown overleaf.

	DESIGNATED MILK			ORDIN- ARY MILK	HEAT TREATED
	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited	Total		
NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN DURING YEAR...	6	2	8	7	9
(a)(i) Number of samples of designated milk found to conform to the standards prescribed in the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.....	5	2	7	0	7
(ii) Number of samples of designat- ed milk found on examination to have failed to conform to the standards prescribed	1	0	1	0	2
(b)(i) Number of samples of ordinary milk found on examination to have been produced in a cleanly manner.....				6	0
(ii) Number of samples of ordinary milk found on examination to be unsatisfactory.....				1	0
(c)(i) Number of samples of milk examined for tubercle bacilli infection and yielding negative results.....				9	0
(ii) Number of samples of milk examined for tubercle bacilli infection and showing positive results.....				0	0
(d) Number of samples of heat treated milk found on examination to have been efficiently pasteurised.....					7

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

WEIGHTS & MEASURES DEPARTMENT

Details of Samples taken by the County Sampling
Officers within the STROOD RURAL DISTRICT
during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1950

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
Balsam of Aniseed.....	1	B/Fwd.	20
Beans in Tomato Sauce.....	1	Little Liver Pills.....	1
Beef Suet.....	1	Lunch Meat.....	1
Bismuth Lozenges.....	1	Meat Pie.....	3
Butter Cream Toffees.....	1	Milk.....	29
Butterscotch Pieces.....	1	Milk (hot).....	1
Chilblain Ointment.....	1	Orange Curd.....	1
Cocoa.....	1	Pork Sausages.....	1
Coffee, Pure.....	1	Rum.....	1
Cough Syrup.....	1	Rum and Butter Bon Bons....	1
Dried Milk.....	1	Sparkling Portello.....	1
Epsom Salts, B.P.....	1	Steak Pudding.....	1
Evaporated Milk.....	1	Stewed Mutton.....	1
Glycerine, Lemon & Ipecacuanha		Stewed Steak.....	1
Linctus.....	1	Syrup of Figs.....	1
Golden Butter Crunch.....	1	T.C.P.....	1
Halibut Liver Oil.....	1	Tincture of Iodine, B.P.....	1
Ice Cream.....	1	Tomato Juice.....	1
Instant Coffee.....	1	Whisky.....	5
Kentish Honey.....	1	Whiter White Pepper.....	1
Kitty Kola.....	1	Zinc & Castor Oil Ointment..	1
	<u>20</u>	Total	<u>74</u>

SUMMARY

Milks.....	30
Drugs.....	12
Spirits.....	6
Other samples.....	26
	<u>74</u>

Food and Drugs Acts (continued)

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

<u>Article</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
Hot Milk	10% deficient in fat. Contained dried condensed milk.	Further samples satisfactory.
Channel Islands Milk	2.5% deficient in fat. -	Reported to Milk Division, Ministry of Food.
Milk.	15% deficient in fat)	'Appeal to cow' samples confirmed fat deficiency. Producers advised. Further samples satisfactory.
Milk.	11.7% deficient in fat)	
)	
)	
)	
Rum and Butter Bon Bons.	Fat 0.6% deficient in butter fat.	Manufacturer cautioned.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the Strood Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the work of the department for the year 1953.

Public Health Act, 1936

830 inspections were made during the year for the purpose of investigating complaints and the abatement of nuisances.

Although materials and labour are now available, the heavy cost of repair work to tenanted houses prevents owners from carrying out other than urgent repairs. Many houses which could have been repaired are now in such a dilapidated condition that they can only be dealt with by demolition and the rehousing of the occupants.

The following work was carried out during the year following inspections and in most cases, the serving of informal notices.

EXTERNAL

Accesses to drainage system provided.	Fences repaired.	1
Accumulation of refuse removed.	1 Gutters repaired.	6
Cesspool covers repaired.	Infestations dealt with.	2
Cesspools emptied.	4 Inspection covers repaired.	2
Cesspools provided.	2 Pails replaced.	15
Cesspools repaired.	7 Paths relaid.	1
Chimney stacks repaired.	1 Permanent ventilation provided.	1
Ditches cleaned.	3 Ponds cleaned out.	1
Doors provided.	21 Privies abolished.	2
Doors repaired.	1 Roofs repaired.	20
Door locks repaired.	2 Soakaways constructed.	1
Door treads repaired.	1 Soil vent pipes repaired.	1
Downspouts cleaned.	1 Stopcocks repaired.	3
Downspouts repaired.	1 Walls repointed.	9
Drains cleaned.	2 Walls repaired.	8
Drains repaired.	12 Watercourses cleared.	2
Dustbins provided.	15 Water supply pipes repaired.	14
	1 Water supplies protected.	1

External repairs - continued

Water supplies provided.	5	W.C.Waste pipes repaired.	2
W.C.Apartments repaired.	1	W.C's provided.	2
W.C. Basins replaced.	3	Window cills repaired.	2
W.C. Cisterns repaired.	4	Window frames repaired.	2
W.C. Flush pipes repaired.	1	Windows repaired.	4

INTERNAL

Ceilings repaired.	4	Premises disinfested.	1
Chimney flues repaired.	1	Sash cords provided.	1
Cooking ranges repaired.	1	Sinks provided.	2
Cooking ranges replaced.	1	Sink waste pipes repaired.	4
Doors repaired.	1	Staircases repaired.	1
Fireplaces repaired.	3	Walls repaired.	23
Floors repaired.	15	Washing boilers repaired.	2
Geysers repaired.	2		

Housing Act, 1936

Nine Demolition Orders were made by the District Council during 1953. Owners of unfit property demolished a total of eight dwellings and four houses were demolished as a result of Demolition Orders.

Factories Act, 1937

Forty-three factories and 61 other premises within the provisions of the Act were inspected during the year, a total of 225 visits being made. Informal action was taken to remedy defects and improve conditions in five cases.

Inspections were made to the premises of seven outworkers during the year. These outworkers are engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928

During the year 82 visits of inspection were made to the 78 petroleum storage installations in the area. Several minor defects, chiefly electrical and mechanical faults on pumps, were pointed out to licencees who willingly had repairs carried out without necessitating formal action.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

4645 inspections were carried out to all classes of premises under the provisions of the above Act and of 107 premises found to be infested, 106 were successfully treated by Local Authority.

Summary of Inspections and Visits during 1952

Under Public Health Acts:-

No. of houses visited.....	261
No. of other premises visited.....	569
No. of re-visits.....	459
No. of nuisances found.....	120
No. of nuisances abated.....	223
No. of informal notices served.....	61
No. of informal notices complied with.....	99
No. of statutory notices served.....	-
No. of statutory notices complied with.....	6
No. of inspections to caravans.....	284
No. of visits refuse disposal.....	21
No. of inquiries in cases of infectious diseases.	40
No. of visits re: disinfection.....	28
No. of houses disinfected.....	21
No. of water samples taken.....	52

Filthy or Verminous Premises

No. of houses inspected.....	17
No. of houses re-inspected.....	13

Under Housing Act:-

No. of houses inspected.....	37
No. of houses re-inspected.....	107
No. of houses inspected for overcrowding.....	5
Miscellaneous housing visits.....	19

Under Shops Act & Factories Act:-

No. of shop visits.....	281
No. of factory visits.....	146
No. of workplaces visited.....	28
No. of inspections re: outworkers.....	16
No. of Bakehouse inspections.....	5

Under Food & Drugs Act:-

No. of inspections of meat at Shops and Stalls.....	17
No. of Fried Fish Shops inspected.....	6
No. of inspections to Butchers Shops.....	28
No. of fishmongers shops inspected.....	7
No. of inspections to grocers shops.....	71
No. of inspections to premises where ice-cream is sold.	68
No. of visits to street vendors of food.....	50
No. of inspections to canteens.....	6
No. of inspections to dairies and milk distributors.....	64
No. of inspections to food preparing premises.....	69
No. of inspections to restaurants.....	29
No. of inspections to licensed premises.....	74
No. of milk samples taken.....	21
Miscellaneous food visits.....	1

Your obedient Servant,

G. WILSON.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

